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MELBOURNE

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15 October, 1968.

Dear Dick,

Your Melbourne Station has sought my views on the possibility of declassifying a Warren Commission document in which reference is made to the [redacted]

The document in question is CD.971 dated 22nd May, 1964, together with an attachment dated 29th November, 1963.

I would recommend strongly that CD.971 and its attachment should not on any account be declassified or publicly released for reasons which include the following :

- (i) It has never been officially stated that there is a "C.I.A. Canberra Station" or that there are C.I.A. officers in Australia. This has been avoided as a point of policy.
- (ii) Publication of these facts would invoke a spate of questions by the Press and in the Parliament, which would be contrary to the national security interest, for example :
  - (a) Who approved the establishment of the "C.I.A. Canberra Station"?
  - (b) What is its composition and location?
  - (c) What is its purpose in Australia?  
(Allegations have already been made that C.I.A. is interfering in [redacted] domestic affairs.)
  - (d) With what Australian agencies does it deal?  
[redacted] which has not been publicly disclosed, could be brought into discussion.)
  - (e) With what other foreign agencies does the [redacted] deal?
  - (f) What [redacted] control is there over such dealings?

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(III) Questions could be raised as to the investigation by the [redacted] of the anonymous telephone calls, the validity of its quoted conclusion and the result of its further enquiries.

I am giving a copy of this letter to your Melbourne Station.

With kindest regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Richard Helms, Esq.,  
Director,  
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